

A New Flying-Squirrel from Borneo

By F. N. CHASEN

Petaurista punctatus banksi subsp. nov.

Like *Petaurista p. punctatus* (Gray) of Malacca but with the top of the head, neck and back glossy black flecked with white; the tail black and the chestnut parts of the pelage deeper in colour.

Colour.—General colour above from nose to rump, black with large white flecks. Patagium deep chestnut above, tawny-rufous below. Under surface, except on the limbs, paler, ochraceous-rufous. Upper part of the limbs like the patagium; digits and edges of the feet, black. Chestnut of the patagium continued as a broad band across the croup on which an indistinct blackish area joins the black saddle to the entirely black tail. Sides of the head, tawny sprinkled with black; a dark ring round the eyes and a small black spot on the chin. Vibrissæ black. Ears missing. Base of the fur on the upper parts, slaty; on the black areas, subterminally rufous, but this cannot be seen unless the long fur is disturbed.

Type.—The skin of a female, unfortunately without skull, collected at Lumu Lumu, Mount Kinabalu, north Borneo, 5,500 feet, by a native collector of the Botanic Gardens, Singapore, in May 1933 and presented to the Raffles Museum by Mr. R. E. Holtum.

Specimens examined.—The type and a flat-skin seen but not obtained by me in a native house in a Dusun village in the Kinabalu foot-hills.

Measurements.—Taken dry in the skin which seems to be of reasonable proportions—head and body, 350 mm.; tail, 360 mm.; hind-foot, 60 (minimum) mm.

Remarks.—With its shining black, white-spotted saddle this flying-squirrel cannot be confused with any other form. This rare species has not hitherto been recorded from Borneo and only one specimen is known from Sumatra.

Three races are now known from Malaysia. The typical form from the Malay States is chestnut in colour, flecked with white on the upper parts. *P. punctatus sumatranus* Kloss,¹ is very similar but has the white flecks reduced. The Bornean form described above is named after Mr. E. Banks, the Curator of the Sarawak Museum.

¹ Journ. F. M. S. Mus., X, 1921, p. 230 (Padang Highlands, west Sumatra).